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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/592,009	06/12/2000	Sherman Lee	BU1466	4198
7590 Brake Hughes PLC C/O Intellevate P.O. Box 52050 Minneapolis, MN 55402				
			EXAMINER NGUYEN, TANH Q	
			ART UNIT 2182	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/592,009

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

TANH Q. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/C2)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/20/07.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 19, 2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 1 recites "wherein setting the index register to the first index value, accessing the context data in the first register, setting the index register to the second index value and accessing context data in the second register are performed in accordance with a state transition diagram" in the last three lines of the claim. Claim 13

recites "wherein the register access circuit accesses context data in the first and second registers in accordance with a state transition diagram" in the last two lines of the claim.

Applicant indicates that the above limitations are supported by FIG. 10 of the application. While FIG. 10 supports a state transition diagram, it is not clear to the examiner where the settings and the accesses are performed in the state transition diagram. Applicant is required to specifically point out the support for the above limitations by labels within FIG. 10, or by specific citations in the specification (by page and line numbers) to overcome the rejections.

4. Claims 1-13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for "a state transition diagram", does not reasonably provide enablement for "wherein setting the index register to the first index value, accessing the context data in the first register, setting the index register to the second index value and accessing context data in the second register are performed in accordance with a state transition diagram" recited in the last three lines of claim 1, and for "wherein the register access circuit accesses context data in the first and second registers in accordance with a state transition diagram" recited in the last two lines of claim 13. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims (see the written description rejection above).

5. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites "wherein setting the index register to the first index value, accessing the context data in the first register, setting the index register to the second index value and accessing context data in the second register are performed in accordance with a state transition diagram" in the last three lines of the claim. Claim 13 recites "wherein the register access circuit accesses context data in the first and second registers in accordance with a state transition diagram" in the last two lines of the claim.

The limitations suggest a state transition diagram for the state machine in the peripheral system. The claims are indefinite because a transition diagram is normally used to help visualize transitions and states in a state machine, but the transition diagram itself is not included with the state machine. Codes and registers are instead used for implementation of the transitions and the states for the state machine (Har'El et al. (US 5,163,016) for example, shows a state transition diagram for a state machine in FIG. 3, a logic for a state machine in FIG. 6, and the codes to implement a state machine in FIG. 7).

6. The rejections that follow are based on the examiner's best interpretation of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson et al. (USP 5,613,114) in view Har'El et al. (US 5,163,016), and alternatively over Anderson et al. in view of Shiell (US 6,041,176).

10. As per claim 1, Anderson teaches a method for performing a context switch operation, comprising:

setting an index register [64, FIG. 1] on an address portion [col. 6, lines 30-32] of a state machine [60, 62, 64, 21-23, 31-33, 41-43, 51-53, FIG. 1; note that digital circuits that have memory are commonly referred to as sequential circuits or state machines (see for example, col. 1, lines 11-12 of US 5,163,016 to Har'El et al.)] in a peripheral system [20, FIG. 1] to a first index value by a host computer [10, FIG. 1], the first index value indicating a first register [e.g. 21, 31, 41, 51 - FIG. 1] to be accessed;

accessing context data in the first register of the peripheral system based upon

first index value [col. 8, lines 7-12];

setting the index register to a second index value by the host computer, the second index value indicating a second register [e.g. 22, 32, 42, 52 - FIG. 1] to be accessed; and

accessing context data in a second register of the peripheral system when the index register is set to the second index value [col. 8, lines 7-12], wherein the first and second registers are collocated with the peripheral system [the registers are collocated in the peripheral system 20, FIG. 1],

wherein setting the index register to the first index value, accessing the context data in the first register, setting the index register to the second index value and accessing context data in the second register are performed in the state machine.

Anderson does not specifically teach a state transition diagram for the state machine.

Har'El teaches a state transition diagram [FIG. 3] that visually shows the transitions and states in a state machine and makes it easier for a user to understand the functions of the state machines, as opposed to codes for implementing the state machine [FIG. 7]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a state transition diagram with the state machine of Anderson to visually show the states and transitions of the state machine – in order to make it easier for a user to understand the functions of the state machine. It was also known to use a state transition diagram to facilitate the design and coding for a state machine, and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a state

transition diagram in the design and coding for the state machine of Anderson in order to facilitate the design and coding for the state machine.

Alternatively, Shiell teaches a state machine being any hardware or software based circuit that is represented by a state transition diagram that has at least two states, and suggests the transition diagram being used to visually represent the states and transitions of a state machine (col. 19, lines 62-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a state transition diagram with the state machine of Anderson to visually represent the states and transitions of the state machine.

11. As per claim 2, Anderson does not teach context data including a device address for a network device, a class value, a clock offset value and an active member address. Such context data are traditionally associated with communications in a Bluetooth environment.

Anderson in essence teaches reducing or eliminating the need for traditional context save and restore when performing context switch operations - by using register sets, each of which being dedicated to a particular context [col. 4, lines 24-36]. Anderson, however, does not teach a Bluetooth environment.

Since it was known in the art at the time the invention was made that traditional context switch operations in a Bluetooth environment require substantial context save and restore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate register sets, each of which being dedicated to a particular context (as is taught by Anderson) in a Bluetooth environment - in order to

reduce and/or eliminate the traditional context save and restore when performing context switch operations in such environment (hence context data in such environment including a device address for a network device, a class value, a clock offset value and an active member address).

12. As per claims 3-6, Anderson teaches each register set being dedicated to a thread, hence teaches accessing context data comprising receiving by the peripheral system an address value that identifies an address within the register, control input identifying read/write functions, and data value to write the data value to the register for a write function, or to provide the contents of the register to the host computer for a read function - as read/write threads are known to include address, read/write functions and data value for read/write functions.

13. As per claim 7, Anderson teaches the registers [21-23, 31-33, 41-43, 51-53, FIG. 1] being dedicated to particular contexts - hence the first and second registers not being architected registers.

14. As per claim 8, Anderson teaches a system comprising:
a host computer [10, FIG. 1], the host computer including a microprocessor [12, FIG. 1];

a peripheral system [20, FIG. 1] coupled to the host computer, the peripheral system including a state machine [60, 62, 64, 21-23, 31-33, 41-43, 51-53, FIG. 1] including an index register [64, FIG. 1], the peripheral system further including a first register [e.g. 21, 31, 41, 51 - FIG. 1] and a second register [e.g. 22, 32, 42, 52 - FIG. 1], the first register being associated with a first index value and the second register being

associated with a second index value, wherein the first and second registers are collocated with the peripheral system (see rejection of claim 1 above).

an interface [29, FIG. 1] coupled to the host computer and to the peripheral system, the interface being configured to provide first and second index values from the host computer to the peripheral system; and

a register access circuit [76, 78 - FIG. 2] in the peripheral system, the register access circuit being configured to access context data in the first register when the first index value is provided by the host computer and set by a thread scheduling unit [74, FIG. 2], wherein the index register is configured to stored either the first index value or the second index value, the register access circuit being further configured to access context data in the second register when the second index value is provided by the host computer and set by the thread scheduling unit (Note that “when the first index value is provided by the host computer” and “when the second index value is provided by the host computer” are not specific enough to preclude Anderson from teaching such limitation),

wherein the register access circuit accesses context data in the first and second registers in accordance with a state transition diagram (see the rejections of claim 1 above).

15. As per claim 9, see the rejection of claim 7 above.

16. As per claim 10, Anderson teaches the peripheral system including a state machine module that includes an address portion, a control portion, and a data portion (context switching unit inherently comprising address portion, control portion and data

portion), the data portion including the first and second registers (see rejection of claim 8 above).

17. As per claims 11-13, Anderson teaches the peripheral system including a microprocessor [60, 62 - FIG. 1];

the address portion comprising the register access circuit [76, 78 - FIG. 2];

the peripheral system including a plurality of context registers, wherein each of the plurality of context registers is associated with one of a plurality of index values other than the first and second index values [...23-53, FIG. 1].

18. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Takeda (US 6,292,851) in view Har'El et al., and alternatively over Takeda in view of Shiell.

19. As per claim 1, Takeda teaches a method for performing a context switch operation, comprising:

setting an index register [26, FIG. 1] on an address portion (register 26 is an Address register) of a state machine [6, FIG. 1; see definition of Finite state machine in Wikipedia cited previously; note also that digital circuits that have memory are commonly referred to as sequential circuits or state machines (see for example, col. 1, lines 11-12 of US 5,163,016 to Har'El et al.)] in a peripheral system [6, FIG. 1; col. 3, lines 12-22] to a first index value by a host computer [4, FIG. 1], the first index value indicating a first register to be accessed [18 of one LSI 17 - FIG. 1 (col. 3, lines 40-42); register in SDRAM 32 - FIG. 2 corresponding to register 18 of the one LSI 17 (col. 5, lines 50-54); col. 5, lines 44-47; col. 5, lines 50-60];

accessing context data in the first register of the peripheral system based upon first index value (e.g. when an address provided by the host computer is associated with register 18 of the one LSI 17, data in SDRAM associated with register 18 of the one LSI 17, or data in register 18 of the one LSI 17 are accessed);

setting the index register to a second index value by the host computer, the second index value indicating a second register to be accessed [18 of another LSI 17 – FIG. 1 (col. 3, lines 40-42); register in SDRAM 32 - FIG. 2 corresponding to register 18 of the another LSI 17 (col. 5, lines 50-54); col. 5, lines 44-47; col. 5, lines 50-60]; and

accessing context data in a second register of the peripheral system when the index register is set to the second index value (e.g. when an address provided by the host computer is associated with register 18 of the another LSI 17, data in SDRAM associated with register 18 of the another LSI 17, or data in register 18 of the one LSI 17 are accessed), wherein the first and second registers are collocated with the peripheral system ((register 18 of the one LSI 17; register 18 of the another LSI 17; and corresponding registers in SDRAM 32 are collocated on peripheral system 6),

wherein setting the index register to the first index value, accessing the context data in the first register, setting the index register to the second index value and accessing context data in the second register are performed in accordance with a state transition diagram (see the rejections of claim 1 by Anderson/Har'El and Anderson/Shiell above for teachings of Har'El and Shiell and for motivation to combine with Takeda).

20. As per claim 2, Takeda does not teach context data including a device address

for a network device, a class value, a clock offset value and an active member address. Such context data are traditionally associated with communications in a Bluetooth environment.

Takeda in essence teaches reducing or eliminating the need for traditional context save and restore when performing context switch operations - by using register sets, each of which being dedicated to a particular context. Takeda, however, does not teach a Bluetooth environment.

Since it was known in the art at the time the invention was made that traditional context switch operations in a Bluetooth environment require substantial context save and restore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate register sets, each of which being dedicated to a particular context (as is taught by Takeda) in a Bluetooth environment - in order to reduce and/or eliminate the traditional context save and restore when performing context switch operations in such environment (hence context data in such environment including a device address for a network device, a class value, a clock offset value and an active member address).

21. As per claims 3-6, Takeda teaches the state machine of the peripheral system including an address portion [26, FIG. 1; 36, FIG. 2], a control portion [22, 30, 34, 40 - FIG. 2], and a data portion [18, 19, 28 - FIG. 1; 32, 38 - FIG. 2], the data portion including the first and second registers (see rejection of claim 8 below). Takeda also teaches each register being dedicated to a device (i.e. an LSI), hence teaches accessing context data comprising receiving by the peripheral system an address value

that identifies an address within the register, control input identifying read/write functions, and data value to write the data value to the register for a write function, or to provide the contents of the register to the host computer for a read function - as read/write from/to devices are known to include address, read/write functions and data value for read/write functions.

22. As per claim 7, Takeda teaches the registers not being architected registers [register 18 of the one LSI 17, register 18 of the another LSI 17, registers in SDRAM corresponding to the one LSI 17 and the another LSI 17 are dedicated to particular context - hence are not architected registers].

23. As per claim 8, Takeda teaches a system comprising:

a host computer [4, FIG. 1], the host computer including a microprocessor [12, FIG. 1];

at least one peripheral system [6, FIG. 1; col. 3, lines 12-22] coupled to the host computer, the peripheral system including a state machine [6, FIG. 1; see definition of Finite state machine in Wikipedia cited previously; note also that digital circuits that have memory are commonly referred to as sequential circuits or state machines (see for example, col. 1, lines 11-12 of US 5,163,016 to Har'El et al.)] including an index register [26, FIG. 1], the peripheral system further including a first register [18 of one LSI 17 - FIG. 1 (col. 3, lines 40-42); register in SDRAM 32 - FIG. 2 corresponding to register 18 of the one LSI 17 (col. 5, lines 50-54] and a second register [18 of another LSI 17 - FIG. 1 (col. 3, lines 39-42); register in SDRAM 32 - FIG. 2 corresponding to register 18 of the another LSI 17 (col. 5, lines 50-54)], the first register being associated with a first index

value and the second register being associated with a second index value [col. 5, lines 44-47; col. 5, lines 50-60], wherein the first and second registers are collocated with the peripheral system (register 18 of one LSI 17; register 18 of the another LSI 17; and corresponding registers in SDRAM 32 are collocated on peripheral system 6);

an interface [8, FIG. 1] coupled to the host computer and to the peripheral system, the interface being configured to provide first and second index values from the host computer to the peripheral system [col. 5, lines 44-47]; and

a register access circuit [20, 22, 24, 34 - FIG. 2] in the peripheral system, the register access circuit being configured to access context data in the first register when the first index value is provided by the host computer (e.g. when an address provided by the host computer is associated with register 18 of one LSI 17, data in SDRAM associated with register 18 of one LSI 17, or data in register 18 of one LSI 17 are accessed), wherein the index register is configured to stored either of the first index value or the second index value (the address register is used to store an address associated with register 18 of the one LSI 17, or an address associated with register 18 of the another LSI 17), the register access circuit being further configured to access context data in the second register when the second index value is provided by the host computer (e.g. when an address provided by the host computer is associated with register 18 of the another LSI 17, data in SDRAM associated with register 18 of the another LSI 17, or data in register 18 of the another LSI 17 are accessed),

wherein the register access circuit accesses context data in the first and second registers in accordance with a state transition diagram (see the rejections of claim 1 by

Anderson/Har'El and Anderson/Shiell above for teachings of Har'El and Shiell and for motivation to combine with Takeda).

24. As per claim 9, Takeda teaches the registers not being architected registers [register 18 of the one LSI 17, register 18 of the another LSI 17, registers in SDRAM corresponding to the one LSI 17 and the another LSI 17 are dedicated to particular context - hence are not architected registers].

25. As per claim 10, Takeda teaches the peripheral system including a state machine module [6, FIG. 1] that includes an address portion [26, FIG. 1; 36, FIG. 2], a control portion [22, 30, 34, 40 - FIG. 2], and a data portion [18, 19, 28 - FIG. 1; 32, 38 - FIG. 2], the data portion including the first and second registers (see rejection of claim 8 above).

26. As per claims 11-13, Takeda teaches the peripheral system including a microprocessor [22, FIG. 1];

the address portion comprising the register access circuit [col. 5, lines 44-47];

the peripheral system including a plurality of context registers, wherein each of the plurality of context registers is associated with one of a plurality of index values other than the first and second index values [col. 3, lines 39-42].

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular page, column and line number(s) in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. Applicant needs to consider the references in their entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention.

In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for

proper interpretation and verification of the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

Double Patenting

27. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

28. Claims 1-13 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4-5 of copending Application No. 11/314,036 in view of Maupin, and further in view of Har'El/Shiell.

As per claims 1, 8, 13, claims 1, 5 of the copending application claim all the limitations of the claims except for a context index register for setting the index values, and except for a state transition diagram. Maupin teaches a context index register for setting a value identifying a new context in a context switch operation. It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a context index register, as is taught by Maupin, in order to identify a new context in a context switch operation. Har'El/Shiell teaches a state transition diagram and it would have been obvious to combine with Har'El/Shiell for the reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 1 with Anderson in view of Har'El/Shiell above.

As per claims 2-6, claim 5 of the copending application claims a Bluetooth network and communications in a Bluetooth network, hence the context data of claim 2, and accessing the context data of claims 3-6.

As per claims 7, 9, claim 4 of the copending application claims non-architected registers.

As per claims 10-12, claim 5 of the copending application claims a host controller, hence a state machine, a microprocessor and a register access circuit in the host controller.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Response to Arguments

29. Applicant's arguments with respect to the pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TANH Q. NGUYEN whose telephone number is

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(571)272-4154. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30AM-6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TARIQ HAFIZ can be reached on (571)272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/TANH Q. NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2182

TQN: May 11, 2008